

LITERARY NOTES.

The biography of the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" is to be prepared by her son, the Rev. Charles E. Stowe. He has found so rich a mass of materials in letters and journals that the work promises to be practically an autobiography. Mr. Kirk Munroe is assisting Mr. Stowe in the preparation of the book, which will be published next winter by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

The concluding volume of Mr. Lecky's "History of England in the Eighteenth Century" will be published next month.

An edition of Edward Fitzgerald's "Omar Kayyam" is to be brought out by Macmillan. A memoir edited by Dr. W. Aldis Wright will be used.

"The Compiler's Apology," prefixed to "Mark Twain's Library of Humor" is thoroughly characteristic of its author. "Those selections in this book," he declares, "which are from my own works, were made by my two assistant compilers, not by me. This is why there are not more."

"How To Propose" is the title of a volume which A. C. McClurg & Co. are about to publish. It is to contain selections from English and American novels which give notable examples of neat and adroit proposals of marriage.

George McDonald is preparing to publish a new novel, its title being "Of Our Blood."

"The Atlanta Constitution" is responsible for the statements that Mrs. Rivers-Chandler was offered over \$30,000 for the manuscript of a novel; that Colonel R. M. Johnston is paid \$300 for each of his short stories, and that Joel Chandler Harris has an offer of \$3,000 for the novel he is writing. This book, which is to be called "Aaron," tells the story of a runaway slave.

Lord Tennyson, who in August last was seventy-nine years old, will spend the coming winter in the Riviera, with Lady Tennyson. Though not strong physically, his mind is said to retain all of its early vigor.

There is probably no prospect that Tennyson will leave behind him any manuscript reminiscences or autobiography. The writing of reminiscences is a task for which he has frequently expressed the greatest repugnance; he hates the very suggestion of personal memoirs, and forcibly likes the process of such public exhibition to being "ripped up like a pig." The sentiment is refined if the expression is coarse.

Mr. Robert Buchanan's opinions concerning reminiscences do not agree with those of Lord Tennyson. He has been writing a volume of memoirs which will appear about Christmas.

Goldwin Smith, also, is setting forth his personal recollections in a volume which will be published under the title of "Observations of a Lengthened Experience." He has abandoned his project of writing a continuation of Macaulay's "History of England."

Wordsworth is mentioned by Canon Butler as expressing his mind with great frankness concerning Byron. "He was a man," he said, "of the most rancorous disposition, who never cared what pain he inflicted on others so long as he gratified his own vanity. Me, too, he attacked—me, who had never written a word in disparagement of him. He was a man of great natural gifts, which he degraded by his misuse of them." It was curious to see how the barbed shaft sent out by Byron rankled in the wounded heart of the amiable bard of Rydal Mount. Not having the same ground of personal quarrel, I ventured to put in a word for Byron, as having devoted his time and fortune and—as it turned out—his life to the restoration of the liberties of Greece. "Surely," I said, "he was disinterested in this." But the old man would not admit it. "It was all owing to personal vanity."

The second volume of Mr. Hale's "Franklin in France" has just come from the press of Roberts Brothers.

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